

South-Central *Build Wisconsin* Regional Workshop Small Group Record

Small Group _____# 10_____ (color)

Facilitator _____Dennis Dornfield._____

Reporter _____Angela Hayes_____

Top 10 responses to the question: “What can the State do to foster economic growth in your region?”

Priority response #1 (votes: 6)

Improve access to venture capital

Priority response #2 (votes: _5)

Increase capability of energy transfer and access in Wisconsin to meet growing needs of power.

Priority response #3 (votes: __4)

Lower taxes

Priority response #4 (votes: __3)

Incentives to encourage investors to support new endeavors

Priority response #5 (votes: __3_)

Health care costs (making it affordable).

Priority response #6 (votes: __3)

Retain a reasonable farming population and the agriculture infrastructure

Priority response #7 (votes: _2_)

Improve transfer of tech. flow from UW system

Priority response #8 (votes: _2)

Increase flow of federal \$\$ into the state

Priority response #9(votes: _2)

Make new tech. Available to all municipalities

Priority response #10(votes: _2)

Market WI to population in and out of state

“Actions Necessary to Achieve our Ideas” Exercise

“If we want to accomplish this [priority issue #1], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

Priority Issue #1 Improve access to venture capital

- Seek out VC companies and introduce them to WI
- Legislature needs more VC \$ to distribute, particularly seed money (make sure money stays in the state)
- Educate businesses that VC exists
- Leverage federal \$ through SBIC or SBA
- State guarantee some of the VC - to back up loan
- Legalize sale of tax credits

Priority Issue #2 Increase capability of energy transfer and access in Wisconsin to meet growing needs of power.

- Construct additional transmission lines in WI with environmental consideration – BUT by streamlined process
- Additional lines to enable WI to connect to Canadian power sources
- Provide tax money and other \$\$ incentives for communities to have/allow building of power plants
- Encourage investment in WI power plants by shortening depreciation period.

Priority Issue #3 Lower taxes

- Increase cooperation between county, town, and city government – eliminate redundancy of services
- Any increase in educational spending should be directly related to measurable student performance increases.
- Increase user fees to reduce taxes